

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Greenbelt, Maryland, Thursday, February 19, 1959

Five Cents

Board, Committee Election Held at GHI Membership Meeting, March 25

By Al Skolnik

Wednesday, March 25, has been set for the annual membership meeting of Greenbelt Homes, Inc at Center School auditorium. Highlighting the meeting will be the election of a 9-man board of directors, a 3-man audit committee, and a 5-man nominations and elections committee. Balloting will begin on the evening of the meeting and resume again the next day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

With director Frank Kriby submitting his resignation as of January 31, there will be at least one opening on the board of directors. At last Thursday's meeting of the GHI board, five of the incumbents signified their intent to seek reelection. They were Ed Burgoon, president; Frank Lastner, vice-president; Lloyd Moore, treasurer; Percy Andros, and Frank Bartholomew. The other incumbents were not present because of illness.

Staggered Terms

Carried over from the agenda last year is the proposed by-law change to stagger the terms of board members. Action was not taken on this motion at last year's annual meeting because of a lack of a quorum. At present, all 9 members of the board are elected at one time for a one-year term.

Under the new plan, board members would be elected for two-year terms, with half the body standing for election each year. To initiate the system, and for the first election only, the four candidates with the highest number of votes would be designated for the two-year term; the remaining five would serve a one-year term.

One advantage cited for the new plan is that it would assure continuity on the board in that there would always be some experienced persons on the board familiar with the corporation's problems. It was also thought that a fewer number of vacancies would assure keener contests.

One argument advanced in opposition to the proposal is that in event the membership is dissatisfied with the board's performance, it would now take two elections to achieve a complete turnover. Furthermore, it was argued, the new plan is not really needed since, as a matter of fact, the contests in recent years have produced a significant amount of continuity in the board's membership. For example, in last year's elections, all 9 incumbent board members were reelected.

Clearing the Deck

In anticipation of the annual meeting, the board reviewed the status of current business to determine what matters would need action at the annual meeting. Management reported that negotiations for the payment of the remaining \$112,950 due GHI on the sale of undeveloped land are proceeding rapidly. A committee consisting of Lloyd Moore, Bruce Bowman, and Ralph Bartholomew has been named to make recommendations on the disposition of the land proceeds. Serious consideration is being given to using the funds to establish a revolving fund or refinancing plan that would facilitate the resale of GHI housing units. Since a membership resolution passed at the March, 1956 annual meeting already authorizes the corporation to establish such a plan, it was not anticipated that any further action will be required by the membership at this time.

Another suggestion for disposition of some of it with the Federal Credit Union and Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association. Such action would require both membership and Public Housing Administration approval, since the present by-laws do not permit investment in non-insured institutions. One argument in favor of this proposal was that since these local

institutions are the primary sources of financing GHI sales at the present time, it might be advantageous for GHI to encourage them rather than start its own refinancing plan. The board felt that this proposal would have to be considered in conjunction with the proposal for establishing its own refinancing plan, and therefore it would be premature to seek by-law changes at this time.

Management reported that it had received no expressions of interest in the construction of 4-bedroom row houses in the North End tract. Announcement of this project was contained in the December News Letter. The land committee is continuing to explore other possibilities which, as developed, will be presented to the membership.

The land committee is also pursuing the possibility of building a post office building on land adjacent to the GDC apartments on Parkway. This proposal would also be submitted for membership approval, but so far the post office department has been noncommittal.

The board considered several by-law amendments on the mechanics of the annual meeting, but decided that the by-laws needed a complete overhauling rather than a patchwork job. It therefore recommended that the next elected board of directors set up a committee for this purpose. Among changes being considered are lowering the requirement for a membership quorum from 10 to 5 per cent and permitting by-law changes to be placed on the election ballot for voting.

Dog and Cats

Manager John O. Walker advised the board of the latest developments on the dog and cat litigation. On February 3, GHI and the members fighting the corporation's ban on dogs and cats each filed motions for summary judgments before Judge Gray of the Circuit Court in Upper Marlboro. Their motions were argued extensively upon the allegations in the record including the various documents filed and were submitted to the court for its consideration. A decision is expected from the court in a few weeks as to the real questions of law, leaving open for trial only such facts as may be in dispute.

TROOP 746 NEWS

Family night was held Saturday evening, February 14 at the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church. All the Scouts participated in a formal opening followed by a Prayer by Rev. Walter C. Smith. The Scouts then demonstrated to their families the different skills they had learned; Axe and knife safety—Mark Rudy; First-Aid—Dick Wertz; Michael Lammons, Milton Harris, Bob Miller and Irwin Abramovitz; Compass—Steven Thornton; Knots—Bill Aleshire and Michael Pearch; Proper Uniform—Bob Miller; and Morse Code with flags—Dick Wertz and Irwin Abramovitz. All the parents agreed that the boys really outdid themselves.

Albert Cousin, Scoutmaster, gave a short history of the Troop since its beginning in November, 1957 and commented on the exceptional showing the boys have made in all area activities in which they have participated. Richard Stover, Neighborhood Commissioner, presented Arthur Lakin, Troop Chairman, with this year's Charter and Membership cards.

Huffington Addresses Jr. High PTA Group

The Greenbelt Junior High PTA had as its guest on Tuesday, February 10, Paul E. Huffington, Assistant Director of Instruction for the Maryland State Department of Education. Since Russia's Sputnik has aroused American interest and concern in education, Huffington, although recognizing certain deficiencies in our system, declared that the humanities, not science, will save the world. The present challenge to educators today, he believes, is to maintain and restore the public's faith in education.

Having made these observations, Huffington directed his attention to junior high schools. In describing the traits of early adolescence, also familiar to parents, he noted that the academically talented child usually chooses his career early. Increased teacher guidance is necessary. The other current trends in education were listed as follows: emphasis on mastery of content with realistic standards for pupils, application of human growth knowledge, tests for discovering aptitudes for enriched programs, flexible and functional grouping; a balanced program with pupil choice of subjects; board program of physical education (with exercise, not winning, to be emphasized), and greater specialization at each grade level.

In conclusion, Huffington announced that Mr. Gaffney has been retained by the state of Maryland to evaluate and study our present school program and to strengthen it in keeping with Dr. Conant's report on secondary schools.

Questions from the audience followed.

The business meeting was held after the program. The most important item was the election of the nomination committee, with representation being given to each area. Unanimously elected were: Mrs. Thomas Ritchie, Greenbelt; Mrs. Margaret Bergstrom, College Park; Mrs. Helen Lavendar, Berwyn; and Mr. Weimer and Mrs. Eugene Bay, from Riverdale.

GCS Congress Election

By Ben Rosenzweig

Each year GCS members have the chance to help shape the future of their cooperative. The annual area meeting elects the local delegates to the co-op Congress. Board and management meet four times a year with the Congress to report on the state of the co-op and to learn first hand the attitudes and ideas, and to ask the advice of the membership.

The area Nominations and Elections committee met Monday night to secure candidates for the 20 positions to be filled at the next election. All interested members are invited to file applications before March 25. Applications can be obtained from the GCS offices in the Supermarket building or from the Nominations and Elections Committee—George Reeves, chairman, 2-C Eastway; George Adams, 46-D Ridge; Leonard Baron, 19-M Ridge; and Ben Rosenzweig, 4-E Crescent.

Parking Solution Soon

The parking problems of Greenbelt residents may soon be solved, when the city council considers for final action a resolution to assign one parking space per residence at its next council meeting, March 2. According to city manager Charles McDonald, the resolution requires no fee from the resident. The parking assignment will be "policed" by the local force, but no fines or costs will be applied to offenders. If abuse of parking privileges occurs, the resolutions may be changed to an ordinance with more severe penalties.

Council Votes Unanimously for New Zoning for Apartment Development

By Isidore Parker

The city council voted unanimously to recommend a change in zoning from industrial to R-18 (apartments and row houses) for property near the junior high school, at its regular meeting last Monday night. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission and the county commissioners, who will meet tonight for final action on the zoning change.

Ed Perkins, local builder planning to develop the site, was represented by Attorney T. Hammond Welsh, Jr., who warned the city Council that the industrial zoning now applicable would permit "auto graveyards" and other unsightly use of the site. He praised Perkins as a builder of good reputation, not a land speculator, who has the interests of Greenbelt in mind. To show his good faith, Welsh said Perkins was willing to covenant the land in Parcel B (adjoining the area to be developed first) in a manner to prevent use other than proposed by the builder at this time.

Mayor Tom Canning expressed his reservations about additional row housing in Greenbelt and his hope for detached dwellings with lower land density. Alan Kistler, councilman, stated he hoped that the builder would not level trees as done in other developments, but he would rather have homes than industries near the junior high school. Councilman Jim Smith declared that the development would enhance the city and its future growth.

Perkins explained that he was interested in the land because of its

topography and its proximity to future centers of employment planned for the area. His land planner, J. Sanders, told the council that the development would be accomplished in five stages, taking about five to eight years. The apartments and homes would be built in "super-blocks" similar to Greenbelt; the commercial center would serve only the immediate residents; and each of the four proposed swimming pools would serve 500 families. Pictures of the proposed apartments and homes were displayed by architect Jack Cohen, who disclosed that some of the apartments would be of the "luxury" type, with air conditioning and elevators. The entire project will be served by underground telephone and electric lines and inner parking area. It will be maintained by the owner-renter.

City manager Charles McDonald, asked for his frank opinion stated: "One of the finest things to come to Greenbelt since I've been here. This will be a wonderful asset to our community." He asserted that this type of development pays for itself in services through additional income tax and gasoline tax revenue, "Sherbrow funds" allocated on the basis of population, in addition to ordinary real property taxes.

Although McDonald is not satisfied with the proposed use of land for parks, playgrounds and church sites, he disclosed that the plans for developments are first approved by the MNCPPC after the developer and city engineers have agreed on the land use. He expressed assurance that the Perkins group would cooperate with the city in this matter, hence both parties were concerned with the satisfaction of the residents.

GOLGOTHA

The Women's Sodality of St. Hugh's Parish is sponsoring a showing of the sound film production, Golgotha, depicting the entire life of Christ from birth to resurrection. Following the scriptural story closely, this production is considered one of the most important pictures since the birth of the film industry. It will be shown at St. Hugh's Auditorium, Sunday, February 22, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

GHI Candidates Consent Form

Date 1959

I, residing
(Legal Signature)

at herewith
(Address)

certify that I am an accredited member of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., and authorize that my name be accepted in nomination to serve as a candidate for:

(Check One)

- ☐ GREENBELT HOMES, INC. "BOARD OF DIRECTORS"
- ☐ GREENBELT HOMES, INC. "AUDIT COMMITTEE"
- ☐ GREENBELT HOMES, INC. "NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE"

Name

Address

Telephone Number

Please add a short biographical sketch outlining your experience, education, family group, and any other pertinent information—200 words or less.

GHI candidates are requested to complete the above form and submit to Nominations and Elections Committee in care of GHI Office, Hamilton Place on or before March 10, 1959.

Our Neighbors

By Elaine Skolnik, GR. 4-6060 6

Visiting the Greenbaum family, 13-V Ridge, last weekend, were the Aaron Hellers of Philadelphia. Russ and Aaron were schoolmates. Birthday greetings to Ronny Newkirk, 20-G Hillside, who celebrated his 12th birthday.

Sonia Garin, wants to thank everyone who helped make the Safety Patrol Drill Team's bake sale a great success.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Russell Maffay, 73-Q Ridge, on the arrival of a son on January 10.

A get well quick to Betty Andros, 2-A Northway, who recently had her tonsils removed.

WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS

The Greenbelt Women's Club held their 19th birthday party on February 12 in the Community Church Fellowship Hall. The table was graced with 19 pink candles and a large pink rose decorated birthday cake.

Mrs. Jane McCarl, hostess for the evening, led the group in unusual games.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs fashion sewing contest, sponsored by Vogue fashion patterns, was the highlight of the evening. Ten spring dresses with accessories were modeled by the women who planned and made them. First prize was won by Mrs. L. O. Mott, the club's president. She wore a navy blue dress of linen. Mrs. Betty Cormack won a prize for workmanship. Mrs. Virginia Branch for fashion effect of costume. Mrs. Esther Townes for becomingness to wearer, and Mrs. Louise Moore for appropriateness of styling for club occasions.

The judges were Mrs. H. Arnold of Lucile Dress Shop in Hyattsville, Mrs. S. Siles of Melron Fabric Shop in West Hyattsville, Mrs. L. T. Pope of the Bishop method of sewing.

Mrs. Helen Mott will compete with the other clubs from the 6th district. This winner will go to the state contest. The national prize is a trip to Paris.

The third and final polio clinic was held on February 2 at Center School. There were 96 shots given. The clinic has been sponsored by the Welfare Department of the Greenbelt Women's Club, Mrs. Charles McDonald, chairman.

No Liquor License - Yet

Reports that the local American Legion Post was seeking a "club liquor license" are premature, the city council learned last Monday night. Councilman Jim Smith declared he had learned that (1) the license is not available at this time, (2) the American Legion Post Home, Inc. board of directors will meet Thursday (tonight) to consider the proposal (The American Legion itself does not acquire such licenses.) It was disclosed that a notice of a hearing is always held when a liquor license is requested, and nearby residents and interested parties are invited to voice their views at that time.

The council asked city manager Charles McDonald to request notice of any such application by the American Legion groups from the licensing board and to notify the council at that time. The Rev. Glenn Samuelson of the local Baptist church, whose letter to the council objecting to the liquor license was read, agreed to the council's action.

MENTAL HEALTH

The Prince Georges County Mental Health Society is presenting a round table discussion on "Mental Health Legislation—National, State and Local," on Monday, February 23, at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 37th and Nicholson Street, Hyattsville.

1959 Symphony Drive

The 1959 Sustaining Fund Drive for the National Symphony Orchestra was kicked off at a Luncheon on Tuesday, February 17, at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C.

General Chairman for the county is Miss Madeline Dailey, veteran worker for the Prince Georges Concert Series. The Prince Georges County group is vitally concerned, since the Orchestra plays four concerts a year on a regularly scheduled basis at the University of Maryland for Prince Georgians and students.

The Rev. Kenneth Wyatt of Greenbelt Community Church is chairman for Greenbelt. The National Symphony Orchestra needs your help now. Volunteers are needed for the Orchestra's 1959 Sustaining Fund Drive. If you want a job that gives you abundant satisfaction and if you can devote just a few afternoon or evening hours to calling on some of your neighbors, you will be given two tickets to the "Isaac Stein" Concert held at Ritchie Coliseum, College Park, March 19. Won't you call the Rev. Kenneth Wyatt and help. GR. 4-6616 or 4-6171.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of the Landscape Committee of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. in the Board Room of the GHI Administration Building at 8 p.m., Friday, February 20.

The Committee will discuss self-help projects of landscaping with any group of two or more members.

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Special 98c Full 1/2 Gallon

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Family Night Supper

Sat. Eve., Feb. 21

5 - 7 P.M.

Greenbelt, Community Church
Social Hall

Hot dogs and rolls 20c; baked
beans, potato salad, cole slaw,
rolls and butter, cake each 10c
per serving

Movies Entertainment

Soup Sale

The WSCS of Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church will hold a Soup Sale at the Church on Thursday, February 26. Home-made Vegetable soup and Clam Chowder 60c a quart. Orders must be in by Tuesday, February 24. 6059 or 9410.

Members of Greenbelt Homes

Our GHI Mortgage Prepayment Plan is now in operation.

Permits you to Pay Off All or Part of your GHI Mortgage.

Phone or come in to learn how the Plan works.

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